United Nations A/C.3/55/L.69

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
8 November 2000

Original: English

Fifty-fifth session
Third Committee
Agenda item 109
Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Burundi, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mauritania, Monaco, Mozambique, Namibia, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Fiftieth anniversary of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and World Refugee Day

The General Assembly,

1. *Commends* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for its leadership and coordination of international action for refugees, and acknowledges the tireless efforts of the Office of the High Commissioner to provide international protection and assistance to refugees and other persons of concern and to promote durable solutions for their problems during the past fifty years;

2. *Pays tribute* to the dedication of United Nations humanitarian workers and associated personnel, the staff of the Office of the High Commissioner in the field, including local staff, who risk their lives in the performance of their duties;

3. *Reaffirms* its support for the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions, on behalf of returnees, stateless persons and internally displaced persons;

4. *Notes* the crucial role of partnerships with Governments, international, regional and non-governmental organizations, as well as of the participation of refugees, in decisions that affect their lives;

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5. *Recognizes* that, by virtue of its activities on behalf of refugees and other persons of concern, the Office of the High Commissioner also contributes to promoting the purposes and principles of the United Nations, in particular those related to peace, human rights and development;

6. *Notes* that 2001 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,[1] which sets out the foundation concepts for international refugee protection;

7. *Notes also* that the Organization of African Unity has agreed to have an international Refugee Day coincide with Africa Refugee Day on 20 June;

8. *Decides* that, as of 2001, the date of 20 June will be commemorated as "World Refugee Day".

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.